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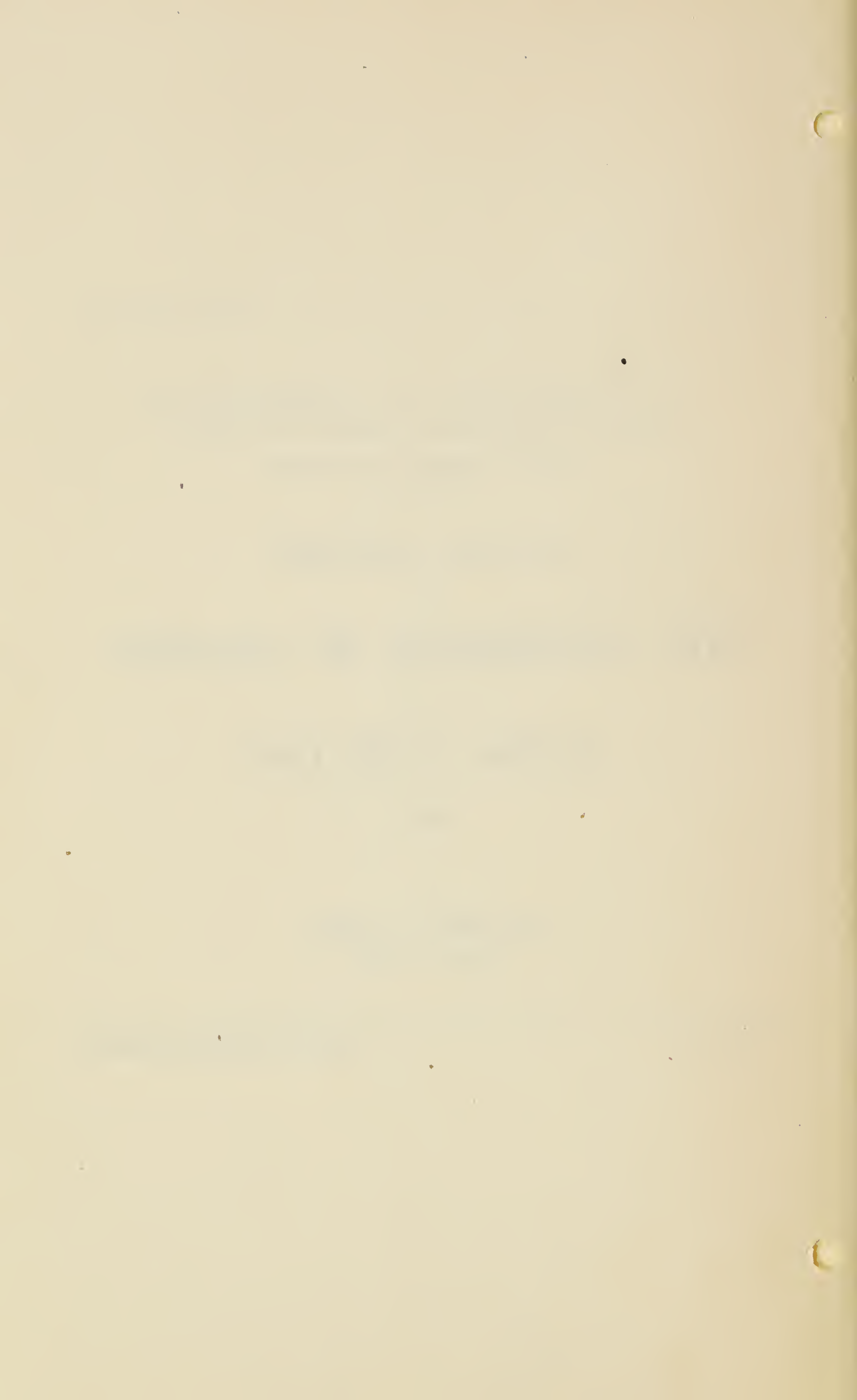
Issued February 15, 1913.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY—Circular No. 90

HENRY W. HENSHAW, Chief of Bureau

ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE GOVERNOR OF ALASKA
ON THE
ALASKA GAME LAW
1912

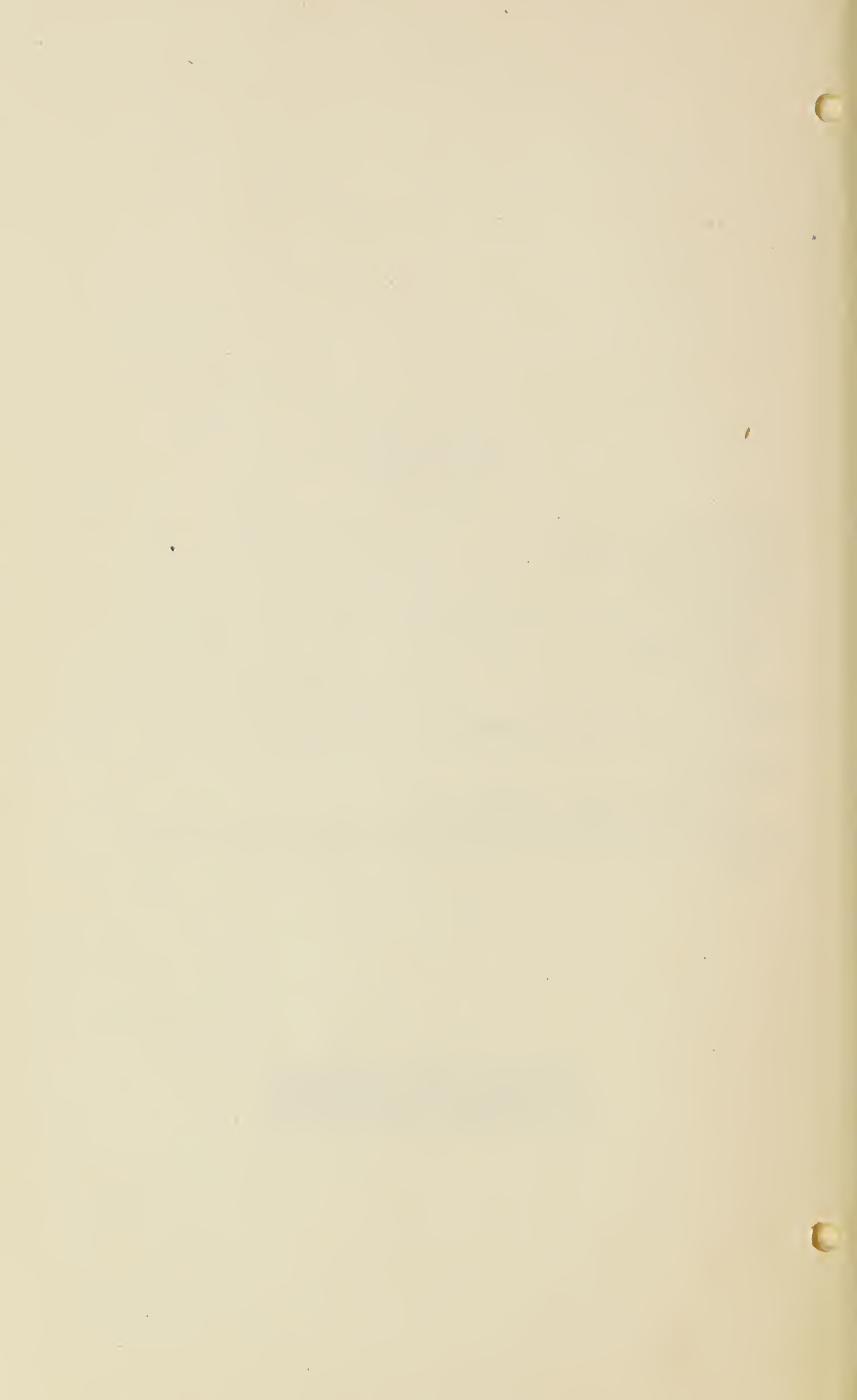
BY
WALTER E. CLARK
Governor of Alaska



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Issued February 15, 1913.

United States Department of Agriculture,

BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY—Circular No. 90.

HENRY W. HENSHAW, Chief of Bureau.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR OF ALASKA ON THE ALASKA GAME LAW.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,
Juneau, Alaska, December 8, 1912.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report on the administration of the Alaska game law (act approved May 11, 1908, as subsequently amended) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1912.

Respectfully yours,

WALTER E. CLARK, *Governor.*

The SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE,
Washington, D. C.

INTRODUCTION.

More liberal provision has been made by Congress in the last two years for the enforcement of the Alaska game law. The increase in the appropriation for the administration of the act from \$10,000 to \$15,000 has made it possible to employ a larger number of wardens; in fact, the economy of the service has been enhanced in even a larger degree than the relatively small increase in the appropriation would indicate. Six wardens are now employed constantly, and a seventh serves six months in each year, which period includes the season when nonresident hunters visit the Kenai Peninsula in considerable numbers. The efficiency of the game wardens is greatly increased by their ability to move about frequently from place to place in regions where game abounds. The enlarged funds provided by Congress have been used largely to defray the expense of increased travel by the wardens.

The crying need is that suitable amendments to the game law, which are so justly demanded by the natural conditions and by the state of public opinion in Alaska, be enacted without delay. The needed changes in the law have been the subject of so much reiteration by this office in the last three years and are so notoriously recognized that I do not discuss them again in detail in this report.

RELATIVE ABUNDANCE OF GAME.

Except in the vicinity of some of the larger towns and industrial camps, and on certain islands in southeastern Alaska where wolves have committed ravages among the deer, there has been no recent serious depletion of the game supply. In the Kenai Peninsula, which is the most readily accessible of all regions in Alaska where moose abound, there has apparently been a net increase in the number of large game animals. The moose are not menaced by overhunting, but their calves are killed in large numbers by the brown bear, which by reason of its ferocity and increase in numbers has become a source of danger to human life as well as to the more valuable of the game animals. Among those who shoot game animals in Alaska the most flagrant violators are the "pot hunters," who kill game for marketing in the larger towns and in the mining and fish-cannery camps. A wise regulation, recently issued by the Department of Agriculture, is the one which prohibits the shipment of moose and sheep carcasses for sale from the Kenai Peninsula, either to the States or to other places in Alaska. There are few, if any, regions in the Territory where the game supply will stand the strain of an open-market demand, even during the period when shooting is permissible.

To conserve the supply of deer on some of the larger islands in the Alaska panhandle many persons favor the placing of a bounty on wolves. Some further advantage would be derived from such a bounty by the employment of needy Indians in shooting wolves for the comparatively small value of the pelt plus the amount of the prize money.

Except where wolves abound, deer in southeastern Alaska have multiplied considerably during the last year. This is due to three causes: The light snowfall of last winter, the prohibition of market selling, and the reduction in the number which may be killed legally by any one person in any one year.

ADMINISTRATION.

The power to frame new regulations under the game law should be transferred from the Department of Agriculture to the governor's office in Juneau. It is not to be expected that local conditions in a distant outlying territory will be as well understood, or that changes in those conditions will be as promptly recognized at the seat of National Government in Washington as at the seat of Territorial Government in Juneau. Moreover, the power to amend the game laws should be vested by Congress in the Alaska Legislature. The object of that express provision of the act creating the Territorial Legislature which forbids the new legislative body to pass any law on the subject of the wild game of the Territory is difficult to apprehend. The matter is more regrettable when the strange anomalies

of the existing game law are considered, and in the light of repeated failures to secure from Congress any adequate relief from these remarkable inequalities in the law. One of the defects referred to was discussed briefly in my annual report as governor of Alaska for 1911, in which I used the following language:

An intimation of the present incongruous condition is given when it is stated that brown bears are denominated as game, and are protected by the game regulations, while black bears are regarded as fur-bearing animals, subject to the regulations administered by the Bureau of Fisheries. Yet the workings of nature are such that of the same litter some bears are black and others are brown.¹

Attention has been invited repeatedly to the condition which prevails on Kodiak Island as a result of the legal protection of the brown bear. Kodiak is a very large island, having a larger population than any other in Alaska of equal size. Some small farming and some rather extensive stock raising have been undertaken. Yet the cattle and sheep are frequently being killed by the vicious and increasingly plentiful brown bears, which are protected by a three-months closed season, and human beings are not infrequently attacked. Generally speaking, the conditions of human habitation outside the larger towns in Alaska are far from easy, but when the hard conditions of life are enhanced by the continued legal protection of wild animals, which at the best are a pest and at the worst a fatal menace to human life, popular respect for law and the administration of government is not increased. The long list of legal outrages which are perpetrated by the present game law would be promptly abolished if Congress, in its wisdom, had seen fit to intrust this simple and elementary subject of legislation to the new territorial general assembly.

The fur laws, with the possible exception of the fur-seal law, should also be locally enacted and locally administered. It is singular that the law and regulations affecting fur-bearing animals, which are no more like fish than birds are like fish, should be administered by the Bureau of Fisheries in Washington, 4,000 miles from the nearest point in Alaska, instead of by an appropriate territorial office in the Territory itself. Such incongruities as this render every successive national administration, without regard to its politics, generally unpopular in Alaska, and they render the enforcement even of just and equitable laws extremely difficult.

HUNTING LICENSES.

In the fiscal year 1912 the number of nonresident hunters obtaining hunting licenses was 32, of whom 30 were citizens of the United States and 2 were residents of foreign countries. In the fiscal

¹ The so-called "brown bear" of Alaska, which in the game laws of Alaska is classed as a game animal, is a totally different species from the black bear of the Rocky Mountain region which, as stated above, sometimes has black and sometimes brown cubs. H. W. Henshaw.

year 1911 the number of nonresident hunters taking out hunting licenses was 25, of whom 20 were citizens of the United States and 5 were residents of foreign countries. Residents of Alaska are not required to obtain hunting licenses, even in the Kenai Peninsula. The issuance of hunting licenses in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1912, is shown in detail in the following table:

Hunting licenses.

Num-ber of license.	Date.	Residence of holder.	Fee.
168	July 1, 1911	Resident of foreign country.....	\$100
1	July 22, 1911	Citizen of United States.....	50
2	do.....	do.....	50
3	July 26, 1911	do.....	50
4	Aug. 8, 1911	do.....	50
5	do.....	do.....	50
6	do.....	do.....	50
7	do.....	do.....	50
8	Aug. 11, 1911	do.....	50
9	do.....	do.....	50
10	Aug. 12, 1911	Resident of foreign country.....	100
11	Aug. 18, 1911	Citizen of United States.....	50
12	Aug. 21, 1911	do.....	50
13	do.....	do.....	50
14	do.....	do.....	50
15	do.....	do.....	50
16	do.....	do.....	50
17	do.....	do.....	50
18	do.....	do.....	50
19	Aug. 29, 1911	do.....	50
20	Sept. 7, 1911	do.....	50
21	Sept. 13, 1911	do.....	50
22	do.....	do.....	50
23	Oet. 12, 1911	do.....	50
24	Dec. 13, 1911	(Sample of printed form sent to Secretary of Agriculture.)	
25	Mar. 22, 1912	Citizen of United States.....	50
26	do.....	do.....	50
27	Apr. 15, 1912	do.....	50
28	May 10, 1912	do.....	50
29	May 11, 1912	Resident of foreign country.....	100
30	do.....	Citizen of United States.....	50
31	June 5, 1912	do.....	50
32	do.....	do.....	50
Total.....			1,750

SHIPPING LICENSES.

The number of special moose-shipping licenses issued by this office in the last fiscal year was 10, to 6 different persons, of whom 5 were citizens of the United States and 1 was a resident of a foreign country. These licenses were for the shipment of moose killed south of latitude 62° only. The number of general game-shipping licenses issued during the same period was 20. In the fiscal year 1911 there were 19 special moose-shipping licenses and 31 general game-shipping licenses issued by this office. The issuance of shipping licenses in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1912, is shown in detail in the two tables following:

Special moose-shipping licenses.

[Each license covers the shipment of one moose or trophy thereof.]

Num- ber of license.	Date.	Residence of holder.	Fee.
1	Oct. 6, 1911	Citizen of United States.....	\$150
2	do.	do.....	150
3	Oct. 7, 1911	do.....	150
4	do.	do.....	150
5	Oct. 12, 1911	do.....	150
6	Oct. 18, 1911	Resident of foreign country.....	150
7	do.	do.....	150
8	Nov. 20, 1911	Citizen of United States.....	150
9	do.	do.....	150
10	Dec. 13, 1911	(Sample of printed form, sent to Secretary of Agriculture.)	
11	Feb. 14, 1912	Citizen of United States.....	150
Total.....			1,500

General game-shipping licenses.

Num- ber of license.	Date.	Game or trophy.	Fee.
1	July 17, 1911	1 pair caribou horns.....	\$10
2	July 20, 1911	1 mountain-sheep head.....	10
3	Aug. 4, 1911	1 brown-bear skin.....	5
4	do.	do.....	5
5	do.	1 caribou head.....	10
6	Aug. 14, 1911	1 brown-bear skin and skull.....	5
7	Sept. 7, 1911	1 mountain-sheep head.....	10
8	Oct. 10, 1911	1 pair moose horns, 2 caribou horns, 2 mountain-sheep horns.....	40
9	Oct. 12, 1911	1 mountain-sheep head.....	10
10	do.	do.....	10
11	Dec. 7, 1911	1 brown-bear skin.....	5
12	do.	do.....	5
13	Dec. 13, 1911	(Sample of printed form, sent to Secretary of Agriculture.)	
14	Feb. 27, 1912	1 caribou head.....	10
15	Mar. 11, 1912	1 brown (grizzly) bear skin.....	5
16	Mar. 13, 1912	1 mountain-sheep head.....	10
17	Apr. 12, 1912	1 mountain-sheep head and hide.....	10
18	do.	1 mountain-sheep head.....	10
19	May 17, 1912	1 brown-bear skin.....	5
20	June 11, 1912	do.....	5
21	June 26, 1912	do.....	5
Total.....			185

The foregoing statements in regard to the issuance of shipping licenses do not indicate, of course, the number of game animals which were actually killed. Persons holding hunting licenses did not ship, it is presumed, trophies of all animals killed by them. Nor do these statements take into account the large number of game animals killed for food, very few trophies of which are shipped out of Alaska. No record is given of the number of shore birds and water fowl killed by sportsmen and hunters.

RECEIPTS.

The total receipts of this office from the administration of the game law, consisting of fees for hunting licenses and shipping licenses and fees for issuing guide licenses for the Kenai Peninsula, in the fiscal

year ended June 30, 1912, was \$3,456.50. Of this amount \$1,412.50 was paid in during the first quarter of the fiscal year, which is the principal hunting season for big game. In the first quarter of the current fiscal year the receipts for hunting and shipping licenses have amounted to \$1,110.

GAME OR TROPHIES SHIPPED FROM ALASKA.

The following table is intended to show the number and kind of trophies actually shipped from the Territory in the fiscal year 1912, as indicated by clearances through the customs ports:

Game or trophies shipped from Alaska for private use during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1912.

Number of hunting or shipping licenses and date of shipment.	Kind and number of game or trophies.	Residence of shipper.
<i>Hunting licenses.</i>		
159, July 10, 1911	2 brown-bear skins.....	Foreign country.
163, June 24, 1911	3 brown-bear skins.....	United States.
166, Oct. 2, 1911	2 moose horns.....	Do.
168, Nov. 21, 1911	3 mountain-sheep heads, 2 sheep scalps, 1 sheep skin, 2 brown-bear skins and skulls.	Foreign country.
1, Sept. 30, 1911	} 3 mountain-sheep heads.....	United States.
2, Sept. 30, 1911		
3, Nov. 3, 1911		
12, Oct. 9, 1911	3 mountain-sheep heads.....	Do.
13, Oct. 9, 1911	1 mountain-sheep head.....	Do.
26, June 10, 1912	2 mountain-sheep heads and capes.....	Do.
27, May 22, 1912	2 brown-bear skins.....	Do.
28, June 11, 1912	1 brown-bear skin, 1 package goat skulls, etc.....	Do.
28, June 11, 1912	1 brown-bear skin.....	Do.
<i>Special moose-shipping licenses.</i>		
1, Oct. 9, 1911	} 2 moose heads.....	Do.
2, Oct. 9, 1911		
3, Oct. 9, 1911	} 2 moose heads and capes.....	Do.
4, Oct. 9, 1911		
5, Nov. 21, 1911	1 moose head.....	Do.
6, Nov. 21, 1911	} 2 moose horns and scalps.....	Foreign country.
7, Nov. 21, 1911		
8, Dec. 4, 1911	} 2 moose heads and scalps.....	United States.
9, Dec. 4, 1911		
11, Feb. 14, 1912	1 moose head, 1 box moose parts, 1 barrel moose parts.....	Do.
<i>General game-shipping licenses.</i>		
158, June 8, 1911	1 mountain-sheep head.....	Alaska.
1, Sept. 2, 1911	1 pair caribou horns.....	Do.
4, Sept. 2, 1911	1 brown-bear skin.....	Do.
6, Oct. 15, 1911	1 brown-bear skin and skull.....	Do.
8, Oct. 17, 1911	1 moose head and scalp, 2 caribou horns, 1 mountain sheep..	Do.
15, Mar. 16, 1912	1 brown (grizzly) bear skin.....	Do.
16, Mar. 13, 1912	1 mountain-sheep head.....	Do.

In Appendix A of this report appear the names and addresses of the several game wardens and of the licensed guides for Kenai Peninsula.

Appendix B is a copy of a circular issued from the governor's office, containing a summary of the provisions of the game law and regulations, for general distribution.

APPENDIX A.

List of game wardens in Alaska.

Name.	Residence.	Appointed.
Christopher C. Shea ¹	Seward, Alaska.....	July 3, 1909
P. F. Vian.....	Kenai, Alaska.....	July 10, 1909
J. C. Tolman.....	Seward, Alaska.....	Sept. 15, 1910
Adam Schneider.....	Juneau, Alaska.....	Oct. 1, 1910
F. C. Irons.....	Fairbanks, Alaska.....	July 1, 1911
Christian L. Larson.....	Chicken, Alaska.....	July 11, 1911
William Lloyd.....	Fairbanks, Alaska.....	July 21, 1911
James Allen ²	Petersburg, Alaska.....	Mar. 1, 1910
George H. Peterson ²	Sitka, Alaska.....	Do.
T. M. Hunt ²	Cordova, Alaska.....	Do.
W. G. Weigle ²	Ketchikan, Alaska.....	Aug. 8, 1911
A. C. Cooper ³	Forrester Island (p. o. Howkan), Alaska.....	June 12, 1912
Harry J. Christoffers ⁴	Fairbanks, Alaska.....	Aug. 1, 1912
Lee R. Dice ⁴	Ophir, Alaska.....	Do.
Fred H. Gray ⁴	Wrangell, Alaska.....	Do.
G. Dallas Hanna ⁴	Nushagak, Alaska.....	Do.
Harry J. Roach ⁴	do.....	Do.

¹ Succeeded by George G. Cantwell, Nov. 23, 1912.

² Officer of Forest Service acting as game warden under appointment by this office.

³ Bird warden, Forrester Island bird reservation, acting as game warden under appointment by this office.

⁴ Fur warden, acting as special game warden under appointment by this office.

List of licensed guides, Kenai Peninsula.

Name.	Residence.	Appointed.
John Wik.....	Kenai, Alaska.....	July 14, 1911
Andrew Simons.....	do.....	Do.
Philip Wilson.....	do.....	Aug. 14, 1911
Emil Berg.....	do.....	Do.
Gust Ness.....	do.....	Do.
Feodor Chickalush ¹	do.....	Sept. 19, 1911
Andrew Berg.....	do.....	July 7, 1912
Dimidoff Mamala ¹	do.....	Aug. 22, 1912
H. G. Singer.....	do.....	Sept. 1, 1912
Pitka Bakoff ¹	do.....	Oct. 7, 1912
Inokenty Shangak ¹	do.....	Do.
Charles Emsweiler.....	Seward, Alaska.....	Nov. 12, 1912

¹ Second-class guides. All others are first-class guides.

The foregoing lists of game wardens and licensed guides are corrected to December 8, 1912.

APPENDIX B.

Copy of circular issued from the governor's office, containing a summary of the provisions of the game law and regulations, for general distribution.

INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC IN REGARD TO THE ALASKA GAME LAW.

GAME DEFINED.

The act approved May 11, 1908 (Alaska game law), protects at certain seasons the following game and game birds: Deer, moose, caribou, mountain sheep, mountain goats, brown bear, sea lions, walrus, ducks, geese, brant, swan, snipe, curlew, grouse, and ptarmigan.

EXEMPTIONS.

Any game animal or game bird may be killed by natives at any time for food or clothing, or by miners or explorers at any time when in need of food; but the animals or birds so killed during the close season shall not be sold or shipped from the territory.

SEASONS.

North of latitude 62 degrees the seasons when game animals and birds may be killed lawfully are as follows: Brown bear, at any time; moose, caribou, sheep, and sea lions, August 1 to December 10; walrus, May 10 to July 1; grouse, ptarmigan, shore birds, and waterfowl, September 1 to March 1.

South of latitude 62 degrees, moose, caribou, mountain sheep, August 20 to December 31; brown bear, October 1 to July 1; deer, August 15 to November 1; mountain goats, April 1 to February 1; grouse, ptarmigan, shore birds, and waterfowl, September 1 to March 1. No caribou to be killed in Kenai Peninsula before August, 1914.

NUMBER.

It is unlawful for any one person in any one year to kill more than 2 moose, 1 walrus or sea lion, 3 caribou, 3 mountain sheep, 3 brown bear, 6 deer; or to kill or have in his possession in any one day more than 25 grouse or ptarmigan or 25 shore birds or waterfowl.

SALE.

No person is permitted to sell or purchase during the close season any game animal or game bird.

HUNTING LICENSES.

Residents of Alaska are not required to obtain hunting licenses. Nonresidents desiring to hunt any game animals, except deer and goats, must first obtain a license from the governor of Alaska; and on Kenai Peninsula must employ a licensed guide. Fees for hunting licenses are as follows: Fifty dollars when issued to a citizen of the United States; \$100 when issued to a citizen of a foreign country. Each hunting license is accompanied by coupons to cover the shipment of the number of animals or trophies permitted by the law to be taken under the license.

SHIPPING LICENSES.

Each hunting license held by a nonresident entitles the holder without further charge to ship a certain limited number of animals or trophies from Alaska, but no moose unless killed north of 62°. For moose killed south of 62° a special shipping permit and license fee are required. The fee for a special moose shipping license

is \$150, and not more than two such licenses may be issued to any one person in one year.

Neither residents nor nonresidents are permitted to ship game animals or trophies which have been bought or are intended for sale.

Residents of Alaska are forbidden to ship heads or trophies without first obtaining a shipping license from the governor of Alaska, for which fees are charged entitling the holder to ship as follows:

\$40, 1 moose if killed north of 62°, 4 deer, 2 caribou, 2 sheep, 2 goats, 2 brown bear; \$10, 1 caribou or 1 sheep; \$5, 1 goat or 1 deer or 1 brown bear.

Applications for shipping licenses should be made to the governor, at Juneau, accompanied by the requisite fee, in the form of a post-office money order, payable to the "governor of Alaska," stating the name and address of consignee and port in the States (Seattle, Portland, or San Francisco) through which shipment is expected to pass.

Any person shipping any game or game trophy is required to make affidavit before the customs officer at port of shipment stating that he has not violated any provision of the game law, that the game or trophy has not been bought or sold, and that he is the owner of the same, and that it is not intended for sale.

MISCELLANEOUS.

It is unlawful for any person at any time to kill any female moose or any yearling moose.

The law forbids all persons to hunt game animals with dogs, to use a shotgun larger than No. 10 gauge, or any gun other than that which can be fired from the shoulder, or to use steam launches or any boats other than those propelled by oars or paddles in the pursuit of game animals or birds.

REGULATIONS ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE PROTECTION OF GAME IN ALASKA, 1912.

The following regulations, additional to those of August 1, 1908, and superseding those of March 6, 1909, and July 21, 1910, are hereby promulgated, to take effect August 1, 1912:

REGULATION 1.

Open season for deer.—The season for killing deer in southeastern Alaska shall be limited to the period from August 15 to November 1, both inclusive.

REGULATION 2.

Limits.—The number of deer killed by any one person during the open season shall be limited to six.

REGULATION 3.

Sale.—The sale of deer carcasses in southeastern Alaska shall be suspended until August 15, 1913.

REGULATION 4.

*Killing deer on certain islands.*¹—The killing of deer on the following islands in southeastern Alaska: Duke Island, near Dixon Inlet; Gravina Island, near Ketchikan; Kruzof Island, west of Sitka; Suemez Island, near Klawak; and Zarembo Island, near Wrangell, is hereby prohibited until August 1, 1914.

¹ The following additional regulation was issued by the Secretary of Agriculture:

"REGULATION.

"Killing of deer on certain islands.—The killing of deer on the following islands in Alaska, Kodiak Island and Long Island, is hereby prohibited until December 10, 1914.

"Approved.

"JAMES WILSON,
"Secretary of Agriculture.

"WASHINGTON, D. C., December 9, 1912."

REGULATION 5.

Kenai Peninsula.—The killing of caribou on the Kenai Peninsula is hereby prohibited until August, 1914.

The shipment of carcasses of moose and sheep for sale, from Seward or other points on the Kenai Peninsula, is hereby prohibited, and no carcasses of said animals shall be accepted for shipment to other points in Alaska unless accompanied by affidavit of the owner that they were not purchased and are not intended for sale.

REGULATION 6.

Walrus.—The season for killing walrus in Bering Strait and in Bering Sea north of the mouth of the Kuskokwim River shall be limited to the period from May 10 to July 1, both inclusive. The killing of walrus in Bristol Bay and at points on the coast of Bering Sea, south of the Kuskokwim River, is hereby prohibited until August 1, 1914.

Approved.

JAMES WILSON,
Secretary of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *July 1, 1912.*

PENALTIES.

Any person violating any provision of the game law is punishable for each offense by a fine of not more than \$200 or imprisonment for not more than three months, or both. Any person making any false or untrue statement in an affidavit is punishable by the same fine or imprisonment, or both.

LICENSED GUIDES.

Licensed guides shall be of two classes—(1) white citizens of the United States, and (2) men of mixed blood leading a civilized life, Indians, Eskimos, or Aleuts, all herein referred to as natives. Guides of both classes will be appointed for the term of two years, unless their licenses are sooner revoked; and no person will be appointed a licensed guide unless he states his intention of devoting the principal part of his time during the hunting season to the business of guiding hunting parties in the game regions of the Kenai Peninsula.

The compensation which each guide of the first and second classes may charge for his services during the hunting season shall be at the rate of not less than \$5 nor more than \$10 per day during the time for which he is employed: *Provided*, Any guide may, in his discretion and with the full consent of the hunting party, enter into special arrangements whereby he shall charge for his services the above-named per diem rates for a minimum period of 30 days for a hunting trip.

No licensed guide shall shoot or kill any moose or other game animal while engaged in conducting a hunting party.

Licensed guides, while appointed by the governor of Alaska and held generally responsible to him, will be held accountable to the game wardens for their conduct while actually employed as such guides, and packers will be held responsible to the game wardens for their conduct while actually employed as such packers.

Packers shall be appointed by the game wardens, who shall keep a register of their names and report such registration to the governor of Alaska.

The compensation of packers shall not exceed three and fifty one-hundredths (\$3.50) dollars per day for the period during which they are employed.

